

# VIETNAM COURIER

Information Weekly — E.O. 146 Tran Hung Dao Street, Hanoi — Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

## PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH APPEALS TO THE NATION

Fellow-countrymen and fighters all over the country,

UNDER the impact of the great victories won by our armed forces and people in both zones, especially in the South since early spring this year, the United States government has launched, on Nov. 1st, 1968, a new and unconditional bombing and shelling of the whole territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Indeed, four years of incredibly heroic fighting of our armed forces and people have yielded tremendous results: more than 500,000 U.S. troops have been killed or wounded; more than 1,000 U.S. war vessels, big and small, set afire, the U.S. war of destruction against the North of our country brought to nought.

It is a victory of very momentous significance for our people's great resistance against American aggression, for national salvation.

The American imperialists had mistakenly expected that with the shallower destruction of the South they would be able to weaken the North, prevent the flow of support from the great vast to the great front and impair the fighting strength of the South. But in fact, the American aggressors' all-round strength has never ceased growing nor has its wholehearted assistance to the liberation struggle of their victims, Southern fellow-countrymen, been stopped. Our Southern brothers-in-arms' unity and force and successes have been increasing at the same rate as the intensity of their struggle against U.S. aggression.

Our achievement can be ascribed to our Party's sound revolutionary line, the firm leadership of our Party, the spirit of the courage and determination to win, and the fine socialist regime. It goes to the common credit of our armed forces and people in both zones, the broadest socialist countries, friendly countries far and near and the world peoples, including the progressives in the U.S.A., for their great help and for their sympathy and support.

Dear fellow-countrymen and fighters,

WE have defeated the war of aggression of the American imperialists in the North. But this is only an initial victory. The American imperialists are very obstinate and perfidious. They talk of peace and friendship, but still nurture dark aggressive designs. More than a million American puppet and satellite troops are still daily committing untold crimes against our Southern compatriots.

Therefore, at present as at present we must redouble our determination to fight and win, our resolve to liberate the South, defend the North and achieve ultimate peaceful national reunification.

(Continued page 2)

## BIG VICTORY, HEAVY AND GLORIOUS TASKS

Nhan Dan's editorial — Nov. 3, 1968

AFTER 14 heroic and victorious years the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, has entered a new period beginning with the general offensive and strategic battles on Jan. 20, 1968. Since then, fired by new morale, our valiant great front has recorded still greater all-round victories.

In perfect coordination with the South Viet Nam people, the Northern armed forces and people have fought with great efficiency and constant success, raising the total number of U.S. prisoners held down over North Viet Nam to over 1,000 men.

During nearly six months of official talks with the U.S. side in Paris, the voice of

justice and the reasonable position of the D.R.V.N. Government have been brought out in full relief and have won active support from progressive public opinion in the world.

In obstinately keeping up its wars of aggression and destruction, the U.S. imperialists have suffered defeat in Viet Nam. Moreover, it has met with very serious difficulties in both its "global strategy" and "global policy" in the world. The U.S. has become increasingly isolated. At home, the U.S. ruling circles have bumped against enormous difficulties. Their financial, economic and economic crisis as well as disturbances caused by lack of order and security, and racial discrimination.

(Continued page 3)

November 4  
1968  
No 189  
5th Year

November 1st

PL  
Washington had to halt unconditionally all bombardments against the D.R.V.N.

## STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

OVER the past 14 years, in disregard of its pledge concerning the Geneva agreements on Viet Nam, the United States has been ceaselessly intervening in, and pursuing an aggression against, the southern part of Viet Nam in an attempt to impose a U.S.-style military base and to prolong the partition of Viet Nam. Since the beginning of 1965, it has committed a U.S. expeditionary corps and satellite troops to Viet Nam to step up the war of aggression there; at the same time it has carried out air and naval bombardments against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, despite the hope of revolutionaries holding position, separating itself from the South Viet Nam quagmire and subduing the Vietnamese people.

Under the cleared leadership of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, our Southern compatriots have been fighting with tenacity and determination, despite the failures on the enemy, winning ever greater victories, especially since the general offensives and simultaneous uprisings of Spring 1968, and have forced the U.S. imperialists to fall into a passive and defensive position, and shaken to its foundations the puppet administration and army.

The North Vietnamese people have put up a heroic resistance against the U.S. imperialists, prevented them from attaining its objectives and caused them very serious setbacks and the

The fact that the United States has had to unconditionally stop the bombardments on the entire territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam after piling up in four years monstrous crimes against the Northern people, and under blocking the progress of the Patriotic movement, constitutes a great victory of the Vietnamese people in both zones. It is also a great victory of the socialist cause, the national liberation movement and the peasant movement, a great victory of the peoples throughout

(Continued page 2)

### South Viet Nam

## \* PUPPET ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES IN SAIGON, HUE, MY THO, TAN SON NHAT AIRBASE AND FUEL TANKS AT NHA BE POUNDED ON NOVEMBER 1.

\* 5,500 Men Put out-of Action, 80 Vehicles, 42 Helicopters, 36 Ships and Launches Destroyed, Downed, Sunk or Damaged in 25 Provinces from October 1 to 20.

\* An LST with 400 Men Aboard, Blown Up at My Tho

\* Guerillas' Fresh Successes in Ben Tre, Tay Ninh and Thua Thien.

\* 300 Enemy Casualties in Con Tien Region.

Up to Nov. 1st, 1968

**3,243**

U.S. aircraft were downed in North Viet Nam

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# PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH APPEALS TO THE NATION

(Continued from page 1)

So long as a single aggressor remains on our soil, we must continue our fight and wipe him out.

Let our Northern people and fighters, under the glorious banner of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, stage uninterrupted offensives and uprisings and resolutely advance towards complete victory.

All American and satellite troops withdraw from South Viet Nam:

The internal affairs of the South be settled by the Southern people themselves in accordance with the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, without foreign interference.

The nationalization of Viet Nam is to be attended to by the people of the two states, South and North, free from foreign intervention.

We are confident that our people's resistance to American aggression, for national salvation, will enlist ever growing sympathy, support and help from the peoples of the brother countries and all over the world, including progressive Americans.

After nearly a hundred years under the yoke of colonial servitude and more than twenty years of resistance against imperialist aggression, our people, more than any other people, have daily at heart plans which is to boldly build national construction. But this must be genuine peace in independence and freedom.

That is why we insist with firmness

Dear fellow-countrymen and fighters,

MANY hardships and sacrifices still lie ahead of us, but our people's great resistance against American aggression, for national salvation, is progressing at a brisk pace toward victory. The trumpet call of the Fatherland is being us forward to crush American aggressors completely!

The American imperialists will certainly be defeated!  
Our people will undoubtedly win!

November 3, 1968

# STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT...

(Continued from page 2)

the world and of progressive people in the United States as well.

After the unconditional ending of U.S. bombardments on the entire territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam side "other problems of concern to the two sides" with a view to a political solution to the Viet Nam problem. The U.S. imperialists' cruelty and perfidy will grow in proportion to their failure. They will then turn their heads with Viet Nam, stepping up their aggression against South Viet Nam and daily committing new crimes against our Southern fellow-countrymen. The Vietnamese people as a whole are resolved to strengthen their unity, heighten their vigilance, overcome difficulties, make every sacrifice, fight and defeat the enemy in response to the appeal of President Ho Chi Minh and the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the United States and the Saigon administration. The Saigon administration's attempt to settle the war without involving recognition of that regime by the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Many South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation is the organization and leader of the South Vietnamese people in the struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation; it is the only instrument of the South Viet Nam territory with an over ten million population; it possesses powerful armed forces, and has the right to represent the South Vietnamese people abroad. As genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people, it is incompetent to settle the South Viet Nam cause.

Let our heroic South Vietnamese administration and its members raise higher their position and stance, and their position of strength in the current period of general offensive and counteroffensive, thus winning all difficulties and obstacles and unflinchingly fight until complete victory, build an independent, democratic, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam, and ultimately realize peaceful national reunification!

The position of the Vietnamese people on a settlement of the Viet Nam problem is clear. The four points of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation are: to defend the peace and peace stand, consistent with the fundamental principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam. The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Vietnamese people insistently demand that the United States stop the war of aggression on Viet Nam, pay a final end to all encroachments on the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. They insistently demand that the United States withdraw all U.S. military bases from South Viet Nam, dismantle all U.S. military bases there, and let the South Vietnamese people independently develop their own affairs in accordance with the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, without any foreign interference.

"Along with its war intensification," Mr. Xuan Thuy went on, "the U.S. is keeping up its efforts to stamp out the Thieu-Khanh clique and undermine the decisive role played by the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation in the settlement of all questions concerning South Viet Nam." "The above-mentioned facts show that, far from desiring a peaceful solution of the Viet Nam problem, the U.S. wants to carry on its war of aggression, and to pursue its neo-colonial policy in South Viet Nam."

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam warmly commends the people throughout the country who, as a result of having been fighting with boundless courage and with immense success, The fact that the United States has

had to unconditionally halt the bombardments on the whole territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam represents a tremendous victory, but it is only an initial victory in our entire people's struggle against U.S. aggression for national salvation. The U.S. imperialists' cruelty and perfidy will grow in proportion to their failure. They will then turn their heads with Viet Nam, stepping up their aggression against South Viet Nam and daily committing new crimes against our Southern fellow-countrymen. The Vietnamese people as a whole are resolved to strengthen their unity, heighten their vigilance, overcome difficulties, make every sacrifice, fight and defeat the enemy in response to the appeal of President Ho Chi Minh and the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the United States and the Saigon administration. The Saigon administration's attempt to settle the war without involving recognition of that regime by the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Let the armed forces and people of North Viet Nam uphold their glorious fighting tradition, stand ready to foil all schemes of U.S. aggression, for national salvation; to defend the South Viet Nam territory with an over ten million population; it possesses powerful armed forces, and has the right to represent the South Vietnamese people abroad.

Let our heroic South Vietnamese administration and its members raise higher their position and stance, and their position of strength in the current period of general offensive and counteroffensive, thus winning all difficulties and obstacles and unflinchingly fight until complete victory, build an independent, democratic, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam, and ultimately realize peaceful national reunification!

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam expresses its deep gratitude to the fraternal people of North Viet Nam for their peace-loving and justice-loving governments and peoples, progressive people in the United States and world democratic organizations for their timely support and assistance to the Vietnamese people in their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam calls on brothers and sisters all over the five continents to extend their support and assistance to the Vietnamese people toward total victory, and to take firm actions for end to U.S. aggression on Viet Nam. No one to all U.S. encroachments on the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the United States and its satellite troops from South Viet Nam, removal of all U.S. military bases there, and for the respect of the South Vietnamese people's right to settle the war intensification of the U.S. persists in its aggression against Viet Nam, the Vietnamese people will rally to till total victory.

The Vietnamese people will surely win!

The U.S. imperialist aggressors will inevitably be defeated!

Long live a peaceful, united, independent, democratic and prosperous Viet Nam!

Hanoi, November 3, 1968

VIET NAM COURIER

# Heroic Land

Editor's Note. — By October 16, 1968, the American aircraft had shot down 523 aircraft which were downed by the militia. In the following brief report, Nguyen Siu addressed the life and death of the peasants of a village in that heroic province.

COMRADE Ngui, head of the administrative committee of V. village, was walking ahead of me. He was carrying a rifle and steps to pick up a bomb splinter which he threw into the pond, without interrupting his walk. And over there, the bridge, was where we made away with four colonials.

D. bridge had now become a

graveyard for the

resistance against Ameri-

cans in the village.

The village had ranked

among the finest of Quang

Binh province, with a large

area of rice fields, lush green, orange groves,

and cozy cottages roofed

with tiles. All this was now

a mass of rice land around

the bridge and T. hamlet

and the hamlet itself, a

prosperous one of a few

hundred houses, had totally

disappeared, replaced by

charred and ruined.

Now there was only a

square child, with a

broken leg, who had

survived the massacre.

Ngui had been captured

by the Americans and

was now a prisoner of

war.

He had been tortured

and beaten, but he had

survived and had

children. Comrades Duong,

Thuong and Thuyen of the

Party had come to see him.

They had brought him

some food and a

little water.

Ngui had laid down his life! I

had been dumbfounded.

Comrade Ngui broke out

in tears: "I am so glad

that piece of sad news even

now I have been aware

all time of the necessity of

sacrifice. I remembered a

man, with a

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# ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

## Military Operations

## 4th ALL-SOUTH VIET NAM GUERRILLA CONFERENCE ENDS IN SUCCESS

In the small hours of November 1, the P.L.A.F. shelled many targets in downtown Saigon — Cho Loei, in Hiep and My Tho. Moored on the Mekong river, opposite My Tho, an L.S.T. with 400 G.I.s on board was blasted by mines and suffered heavy damage. Tan Son Nhut airbase and the fuel depots at Nha Be were plastered with big shells.

Nevertheless the activities of regional troops and guerrillas were given full prominence in last week's South Viet Nam military reports of the *Giai Phong* Press Agency. In the present revolutionary armed struggle of the South Vietnamese people against the American aggressors and their lackeys, "guerrilla warfare" prevails indeed in military actions of the patriotic forces and largely contributes to the success of their arms. There lies the great significance of the Guerrilla Warfare Conference which ended in mid-October.

WESTERN press revealed that a little past midnight of Nov. 1, the P.L.A.F. slammed shells on Saigon — Cho Loei, the target hit the Gia Long bridge seat of the puppet "government" and the Fifth District Police. C.P. North West of the city, Tan Son Nhut airbase, Tan Son Nhut port, and the fuel depots of Nha Be to the Southeast. Military installations and fuel tanks were hit. Meanwhile, on the banks of the main arm of the Mekong river, at My Tho, 40km from Saigon, a puppet military port reportedly received 35 shells while an L.S.T. with 400 G.I.s on board was blasted by mines. The ship, 117 metres long used as floating base for U.S. mobile troops at the Long Lang logistic complex, north-east of Saigon (October 20), Ka Tum camp, 10km northwest of Saigon (October 26) and a sector and sub-sector C.P.s (October 23-25).

destroyed between October 1 and 5, and 450 men put out of action (including ten men who crossed over to our side), 2 choppers down and a war plane downed between October 1 and 10.

Among other targets of the P.L.A.F. in Nam Bo were: Bien Hoa airbase, shelled by the P.L.A.F. on October 27, the Long Biab logistic complex, north-east of Saigon (October 20), Ka Tum camp, 10km northwest of Saigon (October 26) and a sector and sub-sector C.P.s (October 23-25).

In the Western High Plateaus, the P.L.A.F. pounded Sa Pa port near Da Cap (October 23), a U.S. artillery position northeast of Kon Tum (October 25), a position of U.S. Division 4, 50km south of Pleika and another position near Dak To (October 28), base of U.S. Paratroop Brigade 173 at Kon Tum (October 29). Units of the enemy in the ambonies and laid by the guerrillas and regional troops on the roads linking them report to combat areas are creating the Western High Plateaus from North to South from October 10 to 15 were 20 casualties, 28 vehicles destroyed and 1000 m. of roads and armoured cars and a choppers down.

North of Quang Tri province, the U.S. Marines and units of U.S. Motorized Division 5 newly landed in South Viet Nam were violently intercept at Con Thien port, fronting the People's Liberation Committee at all levels — village, district and province — through universal suffrage.

In the former stage of self-management the people of the South had the right to a certain extent to exercise their right as masters of their own life and destiny. Relations among the people and struggle were resolved in accordance with local customs and more and regulations worked out at popular meetings. Now the situation has changed. The people's struggle was expanded and joined together into immense stretches. The time has come for centralized power to be set up in the People's Liberation Councils and People's Liberation Committees elected through universal suffrage, aimed at concentrating all

mid-October 1968, the 4th All-South Viet Nam Guerrilla Conference was held successfully in South Viet Nam's liberated zone.

Mme Nguyen Thi Dinh, Deputy C-in-C of the People's Liberation Armed Forces, delivered a report on the splendid achievements and splendid exploits of guerrilla warfare, the highlights of which are follows:

Over the past period, our armed forces have achieved unprecedentedly great and all-sided successes. Guerrilla warfare has contributed to its substantial strength, so such brilliant results. It has made through new, vigorous and diverse development. It has encircled, attacked, decimated, wiped out a great number of U.S. troops and was means it has particularly swept away enemy agents, spies and thugs at the grass-roots level, stretched the enemy's front, disrupted its command, encircled them and pressured them ineffectively helped the masses to rise up and seize power. It has mobilized broad masses from various nationalities, religious communities, all walks of life in the towns, the countryside and mountain

areas. It has in particular brought into full play the role of women. Many elderly people and children have also volunteered for the fighting. Three combat forces — guerrilla, militia and armed forces — have come into being.

This aggregate strength has constantly increased the capacity of guerrilla warfare of decimation and wiping out the enemy, and of launching vigorous and generalized attacks throughout South Viet Nam.

Guerrilla warfare has progressively developed in nearly all towns, cities, townships, providing fresh facilities for its own growth and consolidation and for its extensive and expanded activities. U.S. troops last dens, thus giving rise everywhere to kept-up generalized offensives and uprisings.

Together with the uprisings of the masses, guerrilla warfare has brought about a situation in which the enemy is encircled, and is constantly under attack in temporary and scattered areas. It has given a strong impetus to small uprisings, liberated large rural areas, enlarged our rear base,

and made it possible to mobilize more manpower and resources to serve the front.

The conference offered an opportunity for exchanges of valuable experiences on the organization and launching of guerrilla warfare. It made specific reports on guerrilla activities at Saigon, Cholon, Gia Dinh, Thua Thien, Ben Tre, Tra Vinh, Loc Ninh, Cu Chi, Bien Hoa, Bien Nhieu, Phu Nhieu, Binh Duoc.... It cited three provinces as standard bearers of the South Viet Nam guerrilla movement, which were attacked and commanded by the High Command of the P.L.A.F.:

1) Ben Tre, for its simultaneous uprisings, victories over U.S. aggressors and its achievements in wiping out puppet troops and civil servants.

2) Tra Vinh, for its widespread uprisings, its perfectly coordinated team work and the accomplishment of exploits.

3) Thua Thien, for its heroic sustained offensives and uprisings.

## NEW PROGRESS IN LIBERATED AREAS

### THE PEOPLE ELECT THEIR OWN ADMINISTRATION

At the puppet administration, the collapsing and the people and armed forces of the South are keeping up their tempestuous attacks upon the South. The people in the liberated areas of South Viet Nam are gradually building up their own revolutionary administration, first of all by electing the People's Revolutionary Committees at all levels — village, district and province — through universal suffrage.

In the former stage of self-management the people of the South had the right to a certain extent to exercise their right as masters of their own life and destiny. Relations among the people and struggle were resolved in accordance with local customs and more and regulations worked out at popular meetings. Now the situation has changed. The people's struggle was expanded and joined together into immense stretches. The time has come for centralized power to be set up in the People's Liberation Councils and People's Liberation Committees elected through universal suffrage, aimed at concentrating all

will, all energies and adequately meeting the immense, complex and urgent needs of combat, production and everyday life. Those Councils and Committees are to be specifically assigned having a firm grasp of the situation, of revolutionary policies, of immediate and future requirements, in which ideas will be set out, discussions and plans elaborated, so that activities in all fields may be coordinated, the people in the village, district and province provided with uniform guidance and their strength combined. Progress then could take place in keeping with the tempo of events of the whole region, the liberated areas became ever more consolidated, and the revolution advanced faster towards victory.

Conscious of the usefulness of the building of revolutionary power, which will still further promote their right as masters of their own destiny, the people of the South had carried forward and actively participated in the elections at all levels. Old folks, blind and weak-sighted people, and invalids with their children to help them go to the polling booths and urged all their relatives and neighbours to do so. Many said: "Today power is veritably in our hands. We must pool and

bend our efforts to organize with greater efficiency the fighting, production, and our life so as to serve the people better and safer." One comrade said: "Our election campaign and the voting, the task of building up the revolutionary administration was intensively conducted to the digging up the enemy and defending the liberated areas in Kien Phong, Tay Ninh and My Tho for instance, in spite of intense enemy resistance. In those days, elections were held while counter-attacks were staged against the enemy. In many villages in Quang Nam and Ban Me, elections were held on polling day. The guerrillas and the people, after driving the enemy away, went on with their voting. In the Tay Nguyen, the returned

(Continued page 7)